

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-17. Canceled.

18. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an antibody ~~antibodies~~, antigen binding fragment of an antibody ~~fragments~~, or a combination thereof that specifically binds ~~bind~~ to ribitol phosphate wall teichoic acid (WTA) of *S. aureus*, wherein said ~~antibodies or fragments~~ antibody or fragment thereof ~~alleviate or block~~ alleviates or blocks ~~staphylococcal~~ colonization by *S. aureus* upon administration to a patient.

19. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a polyclonal antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

20. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

21. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a multiplicity of MAbs that specifically bind WTA, wherein the MAbs have non-identical amino acid sequences.

22. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a chimeric antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

23. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a humanized antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

24. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a human antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

25. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 18, wherein the fragment is chosen from the group consisting of Fab, Fab¹, F(ab')₂, Fv, SFv, and scFv fragments.

26. Canceled

27. Canceled

28. (Previously presented) A vaccine comprising: (a) the composition of claim 18; and (b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

29. Canceled

30. Canceled

31-38. Canceled.

39. (Withdrawn) A method for preventing or treating a staphylococcal infection in a patient, which comprises instilling into the patient a prophylactically or therapeutically effective amount of the composition of claim 18.

40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a polyclonal antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

41. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

42. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a multiplicity of MAbs that specifically bind WTA, wherein the MAbs have non-identical amino acid sequences.

43. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a chimeric antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

44. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a humanized antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

45. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the composition comprises a human antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

46. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, further comprising the instillation of at least one anti-staphylococcal drug.

47. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 46, wherein the anti-staphylococcal drug comprises lysostaphin, nisin, or both.

48. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the staphylococcal infection is selected from a localized infection, a systemic infection, and a contamination of a foreign body.

49. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the antibody fragments are chosen from Fab, Fab', F(ab')₂, Fv, SFv, and scFv.

50. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the staphylococcal infection is an *S. aureus* infection.

51. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the instilling comprises one or more of nasal instillation, oral instillation, airway instillation, or systematic instillation.

52. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the patient is at risk of, or suffers from, at least one of cystic fibrosis, staphylococcal pneumonia, a staphylococcal contamination of a foreign body, a staphylococcal infection, and staphylococcal nasal colonization.

53. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the patient is a mammal.

54. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the patient is human.

55. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein the staphylococcal infection comprises *S. aureus*.

56. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, further comprising the instillation of a therapeutically effective amount of at least one antibiotic anti-staphylococcal drug.

57. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 56, wherein the at least one antibiotic anti-staphylococcal drug comprises mupirocin, bacitracin, or both.

58. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, further comprising the instillation of a therapeutically effective amount of at least one lanthione-containing molecule.